



## Forensic Science | 2.1 First Responder Activity

**Important note: This activity will be the beginning of a three-part assignment. The material created in this lesson will be used in the assignments for 2.2 and 2.3.**

### Introduction:

First responders have a very important role in crime scene investigations. These individuals, often police officers, are the first to arrive on scene and must make decisions that set the stage for all future investigative actions. It is these individuals that tend to take care of the first three of the seven “S’s” of crime scene investigations. Additionally, these individuals are also at the most risk, as there is always a possibility that the criminals may still be on site. Also, first responders must ensure that the crime scene remains free of contamination in order to collect as much evidence as possible.

In this activity, you will take on the role of a first responder in a hypothetical crime scene. You will be asked to do the following:

- **S**ecure the crime scene
- **S**eparate and investigate at least 2 witnesses
- **S**can the scene

### Procedure:

1. Imagine a hypothetical crime and the scene in which it took place. Remember, your crime must include at least 2 witnesses. In the space below, write a story describing the scene and the crime that took place. Remember, later in this assignment you will be asked to recreate the crime scene and submit the photos of it to your instructor so you will want your story to align with material and space available near you.

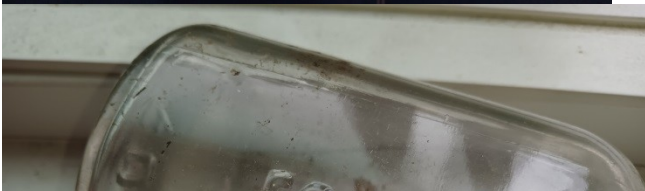
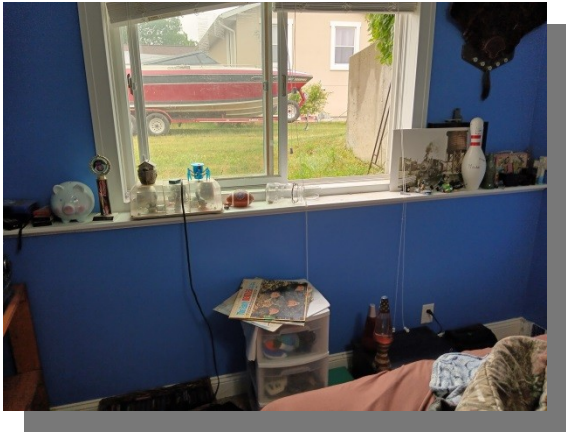
Your crime story should meet the following guidelines:

- Describe the crime in sentence/paragraph form and in your own words.
- Be sure to provide enough detail so your instructor can follow the chain of events.
- Tell the story from the point of view that you already know all the details and facts. For example: If a murder occurred, describe how it happened and who did it in the story. This will make it easier for you to recreate the scene and create other required details.
- **There should be absolutely no firearms, knives, or live ammunition in the scene.**
- **You must use utmost care when developing this scene so as you do not bring to school any items that could result in anyone getting hurt or yourself in trouble with school policy. If you plan to use any items that you are concerned about, please seek guidance and advice from your mentor.**

### Crime Scene Story (4 points)

One day, a kid came running through a guy's room, grabbed his jar of money sitting on the window sill, stole all of it, opened the window, pushed out the screen, jumped up to the windowsill, and ran away through the yard. The neighbor saw the kid running. There were footprints on the windowsill and fingerprints on the window. The guy in the room called the police.

2. Recreate the crime scene in your home or some other accessible location. Try to make the crime scene look as realistic as possible, however, this should not take days to accomplish. Remember, the crime scene should match your description/story as closely as possible. Your photos are not supposed to represent the crime scene photos taken by a CSI but should show your instructor that you have matched the description of the crime with the created scene. Insert at least 4 photos in the space provide below. (4 points)





3. You will now be asked to act as a first responder and complete the first three "S's". Once again, these are **Secure the scene**, **Separate the witnesses** and **Scan the scene**. As the first responder, explain how you accomplished these three tasks.

a. Describe the steps you took to secure the scene. (4 points)

I put police tape in front of the door. I made sure that everyone got out of the room. I made sure not to contaminate any of the evidence.

b. Explain your procedures regarding the witnesses. (4 points)

I made sure the neighbor and the person in the room did not speak to each other. I had each of them go with a separate police officer to tell them what they saw.

c. Provide detailed observation notes according to the considerations given on page 6 of Lesson 2.1. Additionally, please note if there is a need to secure a secondary crime scene. (4 points)

The door was open. The window was open and the screen was removed. There was a light in the room and sunlight from the window. There was a footprint on the windowsill left by the suspect and fingerprints on the jar and the window. There were no noticeable odors. The suspect was described as a short male, aged 10-11. We do not need to secure a secondary crime scene.